

## DOINGS ON THE STAGE

BY HERBERT GIBSON.

New York, N. Y., Special—Prof. Theodore Drury presented the opera "Il Guarany" last Monday night at Carnegie Lyceum to the largest audience that has ever gathered within its walls. Standing room at nine o'clock was put at three dollars. All of the boxes were filled with distinguished society people, members of the four hundred, and the gowns that some of the ladies wore were gorgeous and appeared to have been made especially for the occasion; diamonds were noticeable all over the house. The manner in which our people appeared and behaved was a credit to our race and shows that we are up-to-date with our fellow white citizens and are still advancing at a rapid speed. Some of our



MR. THEODORE DRURY.

people came in automobiles while others came in cabs and other carriages. The performance was excellent in every respect and surpassed all other productions of Prof. Drury's. Madame Plato seemed at home in her parts, and sang her way into the favor of the house; she distinguished herself by very clever acting as well as her singing. Mr. Drury also portrayed his parts to perfection. The chorus of seventy voices was splendid and showed very careful training. The scenery this time was very beautiful and was handled without a hitch. I recognized Madame Flower in a box, with a large bunch of violets. The performance as a whole deserves the appreciation of every Afro-American.

Mr. Ben Hun was in Chicago, Ill. last week.

Johnson and Dean played last week at Toledo, Ohio.

Mortins Uncle Tom's Cabin Company are playing at Akron, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Jones are playing at the Olympie Theatre, Chicago, Ill., this week.

Miss Florence M. Williams will spend her vacation at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition.

Mr. Henri Strange, 'the Black Booth' will make his fourteenth tour of the Jersey coast next month.

Mallroy Bros. and Brooks Musical Artists played last week at the Empire Theater, Cleveland, Ohio.

Cole and Johnson in a "A Trip to Coontown" are playing in Philadelphia, Penn. this week to packed houses.

"Coontown Four Hundred" company played last week at St. Joseph, Missouri, giving an excellent performance.

Ohio is having its share of ragtime these days. Last week there were colored attractions in all of its leading cities.

Mr. Nathan'el Bivins has written another fine song entitled, "Take me when you go." It is full of ginger and is very popular already.

James Moore's New Orleans Minstrels are playing at Hubers Museum. Hen Wise and Kate Milton are the brightest stars in the company.

Miss Margaret Scott "the Creole Nightingale" has finished her long seasons tour and is resting at her home in "Good Old New York Town."

Coney Island will open wide its doors on Decoration Day. Fully sixteen thousand visitors from this city and Brooklyn went down there last Sunday and enjoyed the sea breezes.

Miss Belle Davis appeared at the New York Theater last Sunday night. This makes the third time that she has been engaged at this house within a month. She is a great favorite and is always highly received.

I met Madame Flower on 6th Avenue last week. She looked as fresh and rosy as the flowers of spring. She informs me of having a very successful tour. She will rest in this city at her home for four weeks, then she will start on her summer tour of road gardens parks.

Williams and Walker in the "Sons of Ham" played last week at the Grand Opera House, this city. It is a pity they did not have a two weeks engagement instead of one as one half of the people that wanted to see the company was unable to get seats. Miss Alberta Orme late of "King Rastus" company joined them here. The company is playing at Boston, Mass., this week to a jammed house.

The report that Black Patti was to leave "Troubadours" and head another company with Prof. Theo. Drury of New York is false. I have investigated and learn from the present managers, Messrs. Voelckel and Nolan, who are in Baltimore, Md., this week that Mme. Patti has no such thoughts and the statement is absolutely false. The company will close its season shortly and open its regular fall tour early in August.

Wm. Brady's mammoth production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will celebrate its three months run at the Academy of Music with expensive souvenirs the engagement will only two weeks longer. Large crowds still rush to see the play,

in fact Mr. Brady said it has become a habit for people to see his play. People that have seen the play time and again still rush and stand in line to buy seats. Never before has this play house been so packed and jammed.

Ruscoe and Hollands "Nashville Students" have captured the West and the receptions that they are receiving nightly are exceedingly gratifying. The company is full of up-to-date people. The band is under the leadership of one of the most experienced leaders in the country, Mr. Frank Clermont of New Orleans, La. The South is very proud of him indeed. One of the schemes is to compel his band to practice each morning two hours before breakfast. This scheme is an excellent one and to hear his band render the overture from "William Tell" would cause people to believe that Sousa had a hand in training that band.

Well, wouldn't this bump you? A colored pickin'ny quartette sang last week at Kastor and Bials Theater. It is the first time in five months that a colored performer has appeared at this theater. The question of how they got there can be answered very easily, the "White Rats" have been kicked out by the management and an opera company installed which will remain until the roof gardens will open next month when the "Rats" will return. The "Rats" are having a tough time now to live, as all the leading vaudeville houses have installed large stock companies to fill the places of the "Rats." Last week one of Proctors Theatres only had the names of two "Rats" on their bill. There was a time when there were thirty and forty Rats on a single program.

"King Rastus" is dead and his many Washington chums that were waiting for him to appear at Kernans Lyceum Theater will never see him or even his ghost. John A. Ishams Octroons playing "King Rastus" disbanded in Cincinnati, Ohio, recently and the company's property were sold at auction upon the order of the court to cover the judgment held by Miss Belle Davis. The members of another company volunteered to assist them and a benefit performance was given which enabled the survivors of "King Rastus" to reach their homes. Mr. Isham said that King Rastus was the biggest frost that he has ever had together with its poor management by Frank Isham. The company has been playing to poor houses all the winter and the season ended just as the Mallroy Bros and Billy Kersands predicted last August.

Mr. Ernest Hogan, the "Unbleached American" played at the New York Theatre last Sunday and the enthusiastic reception he received was fully deserved. There is no colored comedian on the variety stage that knows how to handle an audience as well as Mr. Hogan does. He keeps his audience alternately laughing and applauding the whole time he is on the stage. He certainly has a most winning disposition as well as amusing, what is too funny to say, he sings, and his method of springing his jokes at his audience with such lightning rapidity causes them to lose their breath laughing at one joke while he is telling another, and those that have not seen him in his new "Conversations" should lose no time in doing so. It is rumored that he is going to Europe with a large company under the management of Ruscoe and Holland. It is causing all the professionals to sing "Take me when you go" when they meet him on the Rialto. He made a big hit when he sung for the "Woman's Business Club" at the Westside Lyceum on April the twenty-

sixth.

"Hottest Con in Dixie" played last week at Sandusky, O. io. Miss Maud Grundy who joined this company recently is a great "card" and is making "good." This company is returning east from an extended tour all through the northwest.

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The Following dates have been chartered for Nottley Hall, Lower Cedar Point and Glymont on Steamer River Queen,  
May 30, W. H. Nixon Social Club.  
June 3, Piano Movers.  
June 4, Blooming Youth Social Club.  
June 5, Odd Fellows.  
June 6, Junk Dealers to Lower Cedar Point.  
June 7, Hl Admiral Club, Glymont.  
June 10, Old Point Social Club to Glymont.  
June 11, S. H. Brooks Lodge Odd Fellows to June 12, Keystone Social Club.  
June 12, Lower Cedar Point.  
June 13, Virginia Ave Baptist church, Lower Cedar Point.  
June 17, Crescent Social Club.  
June 18, Sterling Pleasure Club No. 1.  
June 20, Oxford Pleasure Club.  
June 21, Young Men's Protective League.  
June 24, The Latocsa Social Club.  
June 25, Israel C. M. E. church.  
June 26, R. H. Gunnell Lodge G. U. O. of O. F.  
June 28, The Episcureans.  
July 1, Yale Social Club Glymont.  
July 2, South End Athletic Club.  
July 4, T. N. Brown Odd Fellows Lodge.  
July 8, Bill Culley Social Club.  
July 10, Corolia Social Club Lower Cedar Point.  
July 11, Knights Temple Lodge.  
July 15, St. John Aid Society, Lower Cedar Point.  
July 16, Masonic Excursion.  
July 25, St. John Aid Society to Lower Cedar Point.  
Churches or clubs or parties desiring to secure good dates should see Capt. Woollen at once. His residence is 154 East Capitol St or N street Wharf southwest.

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